GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:45
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2001
IMPROVEMENT IN CONDITION OF FISHERMEN
BHAVNA DEVRAJ CHIKHALIA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of advance warning centres established in the country for the welfare of the fishermen, location wise;

(b) whether these Centres provide timely signals to the fishermen going for fishing in the sea; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the deteriorating conditions of fishermen?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & b): As per the information received from the Department of Ocean Development a `Shore to Fishing Vessel Communication Project` was initiated in 1991 to establish a communication link between fishermen out at sea and the shore incase of impending dangers of any cyclonic storm, rough weather, damage to fishing craft etc. Besides, selected fisherfolk were to be provided with hand-held VHF sets.This Project is implemented in two phases. Under phase I of the Project, shore stations had been established in the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Goa.Under phase II, work was initiated for supply of equipments, installation, commissioning, maintenance and operation of 10 shore stations in West Bengal, Maharashtra, Orissa (two stations each) and Pondicherry, Goa, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep (one station each).In State like Maharashtra these Centres provide timely signals to the fishermen going for fishing in the sea. Besides, warning messages are also broadcast through Akashvani, Doordarshan etc. in coastal States/Union Territories.

(c): Several Welfare Schemes for fishermen are under implementation to provide them basic civic amenities such as housing, drinking water and insurance cover besides subsidies for motorisation of traditional craft and State contributed saving-cum-relief to tide over the difficulties of fishermen house holds during non-fishing months.